

Vol. 28 Issue 343 • Jammu • Wednesday • December 13, 2023 • Pages 12 • ₹ 3.00

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Development replaced disillusionment, disappointment and despondency in J&K: Modi

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi has said that the last four years in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) have been marked with a renewed faith in grassroots democracy, with development, democracy and dignity replacing disillusionment, disappointment and despondency.

In an opinion piece which appeared in several newspapers on Tuesday following the Supreme Court (SC) upholding the validity of the abrogating government Article 370, Modi noted as to how as a BJP member associated with the issue for many decades, he had developed a nuanced understanding of the specifics and complexities involved.

The PM said he was crystal clear about one thing that people of J&K want development and want to contribute to the development of India based on their strengths and



They also want a better quality of life for their children- free from violence and uncertainty, he noted, adding his government gave primacy to three pillars of understanding citizens' concerns, building trust through supportive actions, and prioritizing "development, development and more develop-

With its verdict, the apex court has strengthened the spirit of "Ek Bharat. Shreshtha Bharat" and has reminded us that what define us are bonds of unity and a shared commitment to good governance.

"Today, every child in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh is born with a clean canvas, where he or she can paint a future full of vibrant aspirations. Today, the dreams of the people are no longer prisoners of the past but about possibilities for the future. After all, development, democracy and dignity have replaced disillusion-

Earlier, women, SCs, STs and marginalized sections of society were not getting their due while the aspirations of Ladakh were ignored, he said, asserting that August 5, 2019 changed all that, a reference to the momentous decision of nullifying Article 370 and carving out two Union territories from the

All central laws are now applied in the region without fear or favour, he said.

"Representation is also more widespread- a threetier Panchayati Raj system is in place, BDC elections have been held, and refugee communities who were all but forgotten have begun to enjoy the fruits of development. Through its judgment, the court has upheld the sovereignty and integrity of India," the PM said.

He said the SC has rightly observed that the

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CBSE announces date sheet for class 10, 12 Board exams

STATE TIMES NEWS NEW DELHI: The Central Board of Secondary Education Tuesday announced date sheet for class 10 and 12 board exams with the examination for both classes beginning from February 15. The class 10 exams will conclude on March 13 and the class 12 exams will end on April 2. "While preparing the date sheet, the board has kept in mind that there is sufficient gap between two subjects. Dates of competitive exams like JEE have been kept in mind while deciding schedule for class 12," Examination Controller Sanyam Bhardwaj

LS nod to two bills extending women's quota to J&K, Puducherry Assemblies

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Lok Sabha on Tuesday passed two bills that seek to extend the provisions of the women's reservation law to the legislative assemblies of the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Puducherry.

Replying to a debate on the and Kashmir JammuReorganisation (Second Amendment) Bill and the Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Bill, Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai said the twin measures will enable greater representation and participation of women as

J&K employees, pensioners to get hiked DA

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: The Government

on Tuesday announced to pay its employees, pensioners and family pensioners Dearness Allowance (DA) at a hiked rate of 46 per cent. with an increase of four percent to the existing rate of 42 per cent.

As per an order issued by the Finance Department, in continuation to Government Order No 93-F and 94-F of 2023 dated May 4, 2023, the government employees working in regular pay levels under 7th Pay

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given adequate opportunities to grow and injustice was During the rule of Prime meted out to them.

snatched, they were never Rai said post revocation of

Article 370, widow pension has reached 100 per cent saturation coverage in Jammu and Kashmir and one-stop centres for the benefit of

public representatives in lawdistrict of the Union territomaking processes in the two

legislative assemblies. In Puducherry, provisions Hitting out at the opposihave been made for gender tion, Rai said that "be it the budgeting in the 2023-24 Mughal rule, the reign of budget to the tune of Rs aggressors, the British rule 1332 crore for the first time, or Congress governments", the minister said, adding the women's rights were 33 per cent reservation has been given to women in police, fire services and local

Minister Narendra Modi, women have got respect and the right opportunity, Rai

SC's Art 370 verdict to boost Govt efforts to take J&K to new heights: Sinha **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The Supreme Court upholding the abrogation of Article 370 would boost the efforts of the centre and Union Territory administration to take Jammu and Kashmir to new heights of development and provide justice to the deprived sections, Lt Governor Manoj Sinha said on Tuesday.

He said the central government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation of a 'New J&K' on August 5, 2019, and the SC judgment has brought a new hope among the people and will further strengthen the roots of unity and integrity of the nation.

"The Supreme Court has given its verdict (on Article 370) yesterday and made it clear that the resolution passed by the parliament (in August 2019) for the benefit of the people of J&K was completely constitutional. I welcome the judgment which is bound to further strengthen the roots of unity and integrity of the nation,' Sinha said, addressing a function organised to pay tributes to Zorawar Singh, a military General of Dogra Rajput ruler Gulab Singh who achieved martyrdom on

LG announces setting up of Gen Zorawar Singh Chair in JU

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday announced the decision of the govmemory of General Zorawar Singh

in University of Jammu. "The endeavour will inspire students and researchers to build a strong, prosperous J&K which was dreamt of by General Zorawar Singh", the Lieutenant Governor said while unveiling a statue of General Zorawar Singh, at University of Jammu and paid tributes to the great warrior and mili-

tary genius on his martyrdom day. The Lt Governor attended the commemorative event organized by General Zorawar Singh Memorial Educational and Charitable Trust, and J&K Ex-Services League and lauded their efforts to highlight the contribution of General Zorawar Singh in India's history.

He reiterated the resolve of the UT Administration to honour the valour and sacrifice of immortal heroes of J&K.

"History of great personalities like General Zorawar Singh, Brig Rajinder Singh, Maqbool Sherwani

Singh at Jammu University on Tuesday. will be taught to the students in schools of J&K. Their life, courage, conquest is a lesson about patriotism, discipline, self-confidence and it will inspire students to ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

LG Manoj Sinha unveiling statue of General Zorawar

this day in 1842.

The SC decision will ensure social justice and constitutional rights to the deprived sections and boost the efforts

of the government to achieve its goal of a 'new J&K' and take it to new heights of

development, he said. Sinha said the decision will create a new enthusiasm among the people and further the efforts of economic and social development

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said, adding that women were creating new records on the strength of their ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



Atal Dulloo on Tuesday took appraisal of the operational

Principal Secretary, H&UDD; Secretary, Commissioner

Chief Secretary asked for insights into the kind of facilities and projects to be made available under SCM at both Srinagar and Jammu. He observed that the facilities and infrastructure

Dulloo reviews operational preparedness of Smart City projects



Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo chairing a review meeting.

preparedness of all the ongoing and completed projects of the Smart City Mission (SCM) here in the twin cities

JMC/SMC besides other concerned offi-During this meeting the

of Srinagar and Jammu.

The meeting was attended

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Principal Finance:



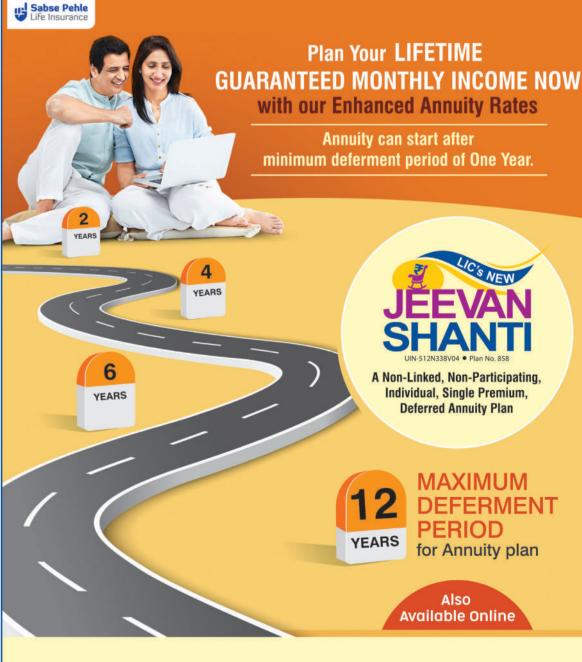
Get ready J&K voters; timeline set for Legislative Assembly polls

Notwithstanding the Supreme Court

The Supreme Court judgment marks a significant moment in the democratic history of India as the people of Jammu and Kashmir are set to experience timebound elections. The decision highlights the principles of justice, fairness, and the rule of law. The implementation of time-bound elections in Jammu and Kashmir not only reflects a commitment to democratic values but also

ensures that the people of Jammu and Kashmir have a voice in shaping their own destiny. It is a testament to the resilience of our democratic institutions and their ability to adapt to the evolving needs of India's diverse population.

Assembly, will have to take a call and express their political aspirations. The development post apex court decision cise is just nine months and the political parties will have to gear up their loins among the electorate. The forthcoming surely going to ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



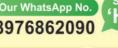




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Har Pal Aapke Saath

said, "We direct that steps shall be taken by the Election Commission of India to conduct elections to the Legislative Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir constituted under Section 14 of the Reorganisation Act by 30

Upholding the validity and of the Article 370, the five-judge constitution bench of

Supreme Court of India issued two important directives with regard to granting statehood to Jammu and Kashmir and holding elections to the Legislative Assembly.

abrogation

While the apex court called for granting statehood to Jammu and Kashmir ' at the earliest and as soon as possible', it also set a timeline for holding the elections to the Legislative Assembly. Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud September 2024. Restoration of statehood shall take place at the earliest and

Now there is no room for ambiguity on the grant of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir and holding elections to the Legislative Assembly.

directives, Prime Minister Narendra Modi led NDA government is on record having stated umpteen times that statehood would be granted to Jammu and Kashmir and elections held whenever the Election Commission of India takes a call. In fact, this was submitted before the apex court by the Solicitor General of Indian and his team during day-to-day hearing of the pleas challenging the abrogation of Article 370.

The Election Commission of India, entrusted with the responsibility of conducting elections to the Legislative initiate the process to conduct the much awaited polls by upholding the highest standards of integrity to instill trust and confidence among the electorate. The people deserve the opportunity to participate in free and fair elections to has generated enthusiasm in the political spectrum across the Union Territory. Time span for such an exerright away to test their acceptability elections in Jammu and Kashmir are